

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 25 MAY 2004

WIPO PCT


Applicant's or agent's file reference P200200796WO	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DK 03/00380	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 10.06.2003	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 07.06.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC D06F67/04		
Applicant JENSEN DENMARK A/S et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  10.12.2003	Date of completion of this report  24.05.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:   European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer  Spitzer, B Telephone No. +49 89 2399-7501



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/DK 03/00380**

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

**Description, Pages**

1-12 as published

**Claims, Numbers**

1-10 as published

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/4-4/4 as published

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).  
☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).  
☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  
☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.  
☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:  
☐ the claims, Nos.:  
☐ the drawings, sheets:

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5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

**see separate sheet**

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: EP-A1-0666360

1. Claim 1

- 1.1 Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses a device for feeding rectangular pieces of cloth to a feeder from which the subject-matter of claim 1 differs in that the **feeding position is located in a position situated in front of the boom** seen in direction of conveyance of the conveyor and in that the **means for transferring** the piece of cloth from the feed conveyor to the boom conveyor are configured such that **they are able to turn the piece of cloth** in an area between the feed conveyor and the boom conveyor. The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

- 1.2 The problem to be solved by the present invention may therefore be regarded as to find a feeding device with which pieces of cloth can be introduced in an effective manner without presupposing the full attention of the operator and which requires less space for the feeder's width.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) because no hint or indication to the above mentioned features was found in the teachings of the other cited prior art documents (all cited as A).

2. Claims 2 - 9

Claims 2-9 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

3. Claim 10

- 3.1 Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses a method for feeding rectangular pieces of cloth to a feeder from which the subject-matter of claim 10 differs in that the straightened front edge of the piece of cloth **is seized by a turning device** for transfer to a third position; and that said straightened front edge of the piece of cloth is, from said second position, turned with an essentially horizontal movement, to said third position for receiving the guide means configured on the boom conveyor for conveyance across the boom.

The subject-matter of claim 10 is therefore novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

- 3.2 The problem to be solved by the present invention may therefore be regarded as to find a feeding method with which pieces of cloth can be introduced in an effective manner without presupposing the full attention of the operator and which requires less space for the feeder's width.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 10 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) because no hint or indication to the above mentioned features was found in the teachings of the other cited prior art documents (all cited as A).

4. The features of the claims 1 to 10 are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).
5. On page 8, line 10 the reference sign "13" should have read "9".
6. Typing errors occurred on p. 11, l. 6 and 31.